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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/645,395	08/21/2003	Paul G. Strupp	5858P9603	8093

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EXAMINER

LEE, JINHEE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

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09/20/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/645,395	STRUPP, PAUL G.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jinhee J. Lee	2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-17,19-21 and 23-36 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 31-36 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-17, 19-21, 23-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 - 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3-17, 19-21, 23-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Germain et al. (6900822) in view of McGuire (20020161873).

Re claim 1, Germain et al. substantially discloses a graphical representation of interaction between reservoirs comprising:

a plurality of graphically represented reservoirs, each of the plurality of reservoirs in communication with at least one other of the plurality of reservoirs, the plurality of reservoirs displayed on a video display;

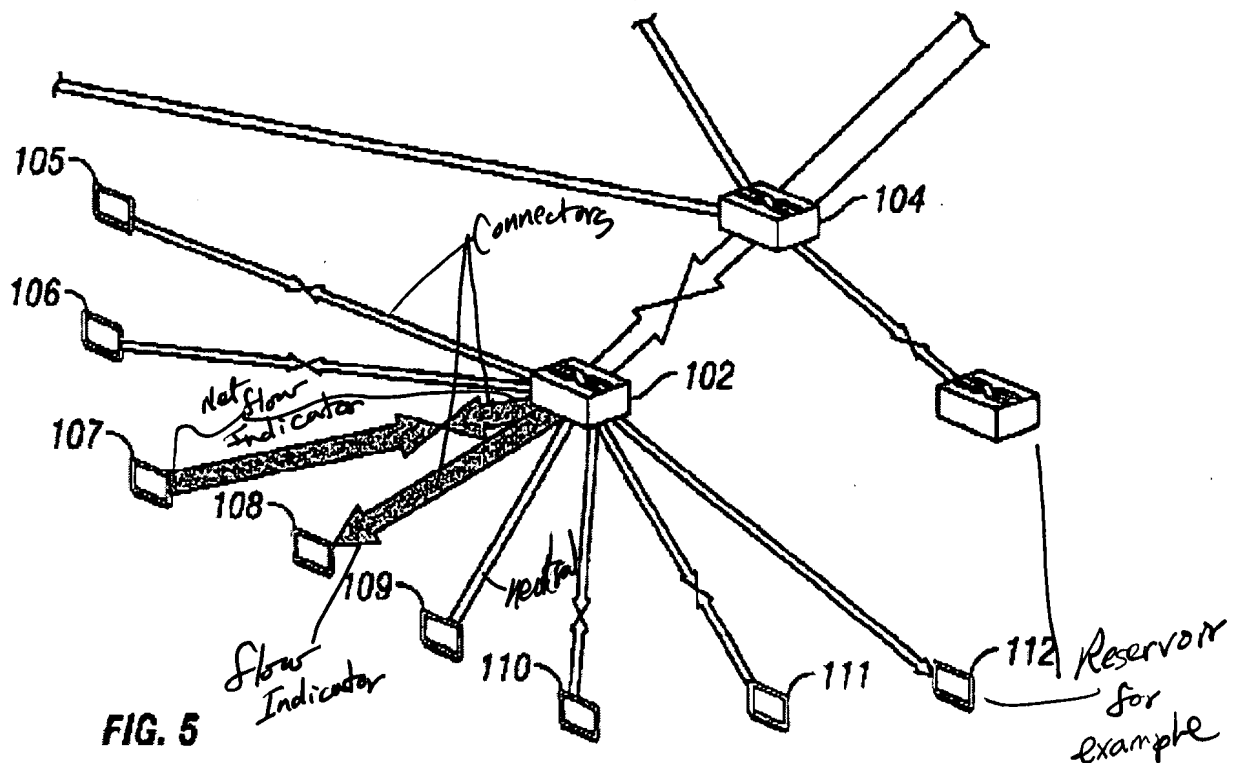
a plurality of graphically represented connectors disposed between select graphically represented reservoirs from the plurality of reservoirs to indicate communication between the select reservoirs of the plurality of reservoirs, each of the connectors having a prominence corresponding to a level of the communication between the select reservoirs, the plurality of connectors displayed on a video display;

a plurality of graphically represented net flow indicators to identify a net flow between the select reservoirs of the plurality of reservoirs, the plurality of net flow indicators displayed on a video display; and

a plurality of graphically represented outflow indicators to indicate an amount of traffic between the select reservoirs of the plurality of reservoirs, the plurality of outflow indicators displayed on a video display (see figure 5 annotated below for example).

Germain et al. does not explicitly disclose the plurality of reservoirs representing website content. Germain et al. discloses the reservoir representing communication network (see abstract) However, McGuire teaches that website can be a portion of the communications network (see paragraph 0003 for example). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to represent website content instead of communications network on the graphic user interface of Germain et al. as taught by McGuire in order to provide data for website communications.

Furthermore, It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have the reservoir represent website content, since applicant has also disclosed that the reservoir can be selected from any one of web sites, subsections of a web site, directories, subdirectories, stores, airports, runways, banks, highways, and predefined content groups; and it appears that the invention could also represent other types of reservoirs as is disclosed in Germain et al.



Re claim 3, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein the plurality of connectors are selected from a group comprising solid lines, dotted lines, and combinations thereof (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 4, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein the plurality of net flow indicators (combination of the flow lines that show what the net flows are) are arrows (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 5, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein the arrows are one or more of shaded and colored arrows (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 6, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein the prominence is illustrated by an item selected from a group comprising thickness, color, shapes, and combinations thereof (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 7, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein the level of communication is determined by a total amount of traffic between corresponding reservoirs (see figure 5 and column 4 lines 52-60 according to the numbering in the middle for example).

Re claim 8, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein each of the plurality of reservoirs is sized based on a total traffic handled by that reservoir (see figure 5 and column 6 lines 2-15 for example).

Re claim 9, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein each of the plurality of reservoirs has a different color or shape to identify whether that reservoir is one of an importer reservoir, exporter reservoir, and neutral reservoir (arrows going one way, the other, and some with no arrows, see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 10, note that Germain et al. discloses a graphical representation wherein each of the plurality of outflow indicators includes a directional indicator (arrow direction for example) and a value indicator (size for example), wherein the value indicator identifies a level of traffic in a single direction (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 11, Germain et al. substantially discloses a method of mapping interaction between a plurality of reservoirs comprising:

Storing in a memory a graphical representation of the interaction between a plurality of reservoirs;

determining a number of referrals to each of the plurality of reservoirs from the remaining plurality of reservoirs;

determining a total traffic handled by each of the plurality of reservoirs;
determining reservoir types and representing each of the plurality of the reservoirs
accordingly;

determining a relative size of each of plurality of reservoirs; connecting select
reservoirs from the plurality of reservoirs;

providing a plurality of net flow indicators between the select reservoirs;

providing a plurality of outflow indicators between the select reservoirs; and

displaying the graphical representation of the interaction between the plurality of
reservoirs on a video display (determinations represented in figure 5 for example).

Germain et al. does not explicitly disclose the plurality of reservoirs representing
website content. Germain et al. discloses the reservoir representing communication
network (see abstract) However, McGuire teaches that website can be a portion of the
communications network (see paragraph 0003 for example). It would have been
obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to
represent website content instead of communications network on the graphic user
interface of Germain et al. as taught by McGuire in order to provide data for website
communications.

Furthermore, It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have the
reservoir represent website content, since applicant has also disclosed that the
reservoir can be selected from any one of web sites, subsections of a web site,
directories, subdirectories, stores, airports, runways, banks, highways, and predefined

content groups; and it appears that the invention could also represent other types of reservoirs as is disclosed in Germain et al.

Re claim 12, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the reservoir types are selected from a group comprising importer, exporter, and neutral (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 13, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the select reservoirs are connected with a plurality of connectors having a relative prominence corresponding to an amount of traffic between each pair of the select reservoirs (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 14, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the relative prominence is illustrated by an item selected from a group comprising thickness, color, shapes, and combinations thereof (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 15, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the plurality of connectors are selected from a group comprising solid lines, dotted lines, and combinations thereof (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 16, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the relative size of each of the plurality of reservoirs is determined based on the total traffic handled by that reservoir (see column 6 lines 2-15 for example).

Re claim 17, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the select reservoirs communicate with each other (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 19, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the plurality of net flow indicators are arrows (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 20, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein each of the plurality of outflow indicators includes a directional indicator and a value indicator, wherein the value indicator identifies a level of traffic in a single direction (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 21, Germain et al. substantially discloses a method of mapping interaction between a plurality of reservoirs comprising:

Storing in a memory a graphical representation of the interaction between a plurality of reservoirs;

providing plurality of reservoirs, each of the plurality reservoirs communicating with at least another one of the plurality of reservoirs; providing a plurality of connectors disposed between select reservoirs from the plurality of reservoirs to indicate communication between the select reservoirs of the plurality of reservoirs, each of the connectors having a prominence corresponding to a level of the communication between the select reservoirs; providing a plurality of net flow indicators to identify a net flow between the select reservoirs of the plurality of reservoirs; providing a plurality of outflow indicators to indicate an amount of traffic between the select reservoirs of the plurality of reservoirs; and

displaying the graphical representation of the interaction between the plurality of reservoirs on a video display (see figure 5 for example).

Germain et al. does not explicitly disclose the plurality of reservoirs representing website content. Germain et al. discloses the reservoir representing communication network (see abstract) However, McGuire teaches that website can be a portion of the

communications network (see paragraph 0003 for example). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to represent website content instead of communications network on the graphic user interface of Germain et al. as taught by McGuire in order to provide data for website communications.

Furthermore, It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have the reservoir represent website content, since applicant has also disclosed that the reservoir can be selected from any one of web sites, subsections of a web site, directories, subdirectories, stores, airports, runways, banks, highways, and predefined content groups; and it appears that the invention could also represent other types of reservoirs as is disclosed in Germain et al.

Re claim 23, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the plurality of connectors are selected from a group comprising solid lines, dotted lines, and combinations thereof (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 24, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the plurality of net flow indicators are arrows (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 25, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the arrows are one or more of shaded and colored arrows (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 26, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the prominence is illustrated by an item selected from a group comprising thickness, color, shapes, and combinations thereof (see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 27, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein the level of communication is determined by a total amount of traffic between corresponding reservoirs (see column 4 lines 52-60 and column 6 lines 2-15 for example).

Re claim 28, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein each of the plurality of reservoirs is sized based on a total traffic handled by that reservoir (see column 4 lines 52-60 and column 6 lines 2-15 for example).

Re claim 29, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein each of the plurality of reservoirs has a different color or shape to identify whether that reservoir is one of an importer reservoir, exporter reservoir, and neutral reservoir (see figure 5 for example)

Re claim 30, note that Germain et al. discloses a method wherein each of the plurality of outflow indicators includes a directional indicator and a value indicator, wherein the value indicator identifies a level of traffic in a single direction (see figure 5 for example).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-17, 19-21, 23-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F at 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on 571-272-2100 ext. 74. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jinhee J Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2174

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jinhee J Lee', with a stylized, flowing script.

jji